

REMARKS

This is a response to the Office Action mailed on December 1, 2006, in this application. As a preliminary matter, applicants wish to again thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 1-11 and 13-19. Claims 1-19 are currently pending. Individual issues raised in the Office Action are addressed below.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hawk (U.S. Patent No. 6,550,281).

The invention disclosed in Hawk is fundamentally different from that claimed in claim 12. This may be understood by examining col. 4, lines 3-55 of Hawk and the related Fig. 4. Hawk is concerned with imparting spin to a fiber that varies according to some pattern, *e.g.* sinusoidally with length. To accomplish this, the apparatus and method of Hawk measures the instantaneous speed of drawing, V_A , calculates from this the actual length drawn, L_A , and uses this to calculate a desired spin rate Ω_D , from which is derived a signal for driving the rollers to obtain the desired spin pattern as a function of length.

In contrast, the invention claimed in claim 12 controls the spin rate by observing the spin imparted on the fiber, as inferred from scattered light dispersion pattern data. Applicant can find no teaching or suggestion in Hawk related to scattered light dispersion data, much less its use in observing or controlling the spin of a fiber. For example, in Fig. 2 of Hawk, cited and reproduced by the Examiner in the most recent Office Action, the depicted elements are preform 100, furnace 101, rollers 102 and 104, fiber 106, and reel 105. None of these elements is described or depicted as having any role related to obtaining scattered light dispersion pattern data, nor is anything else in Hawk so described or depicted.

As Hawk does not teach or suggest these basic features of claim 12, the rejection of claim 12 should be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the instant Office Action, the Examiner again states that claims 1-11 and 13-19 are allowed. The applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for this finding and further states that, in view of the above, claim 12 should be allowed as well.

Conclusion

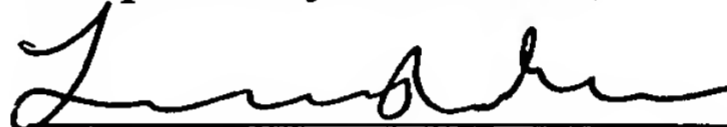
In view of the above, applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. A favorable disposition to that effect is respectfully requested.

No fee is believed to be due for this submission. In the event a fee is required please charge such a fee to Jones Day Deposit Account No. 50-3013.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning this submission, she is invited to call the undersigned at the phone number listed below.

Date: February 1, 2007

Respectfully submitted,



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